

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 IO-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 AID-05 ABF-01 OMB-01 /095 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JDROSENTHAL:JY

APPROVED BY EA:PCHABIB

EA/RA:MS MCNUTT (SUBS)

L:MS. VERVILLE (SUBS)

IO:MR. CUMMINS (SUBS)

EA:MR. MILLER (DRAFT)

EUR/SOV:MR. ZOOK (SUBS)

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P R 020026Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182842

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PORG, AORG, AFIN, LA

SUBJECT: US CONTRIBUTION TO ICC/LAOS

REF: A. VIENTIANE 4794; B. VIENTIANE 4922; C. NEW DELHI
9997

CONFIDENTIAL

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HONG KONG FOR LAHIGUERA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. REGARDING YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT ICC/LAOS IS RIPE FOR TERMINATION, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY INITIATIVE FOR TERMINATION SHOULD COME FROM THE CO-CHAIRMEN RATHER THAN THROUGH SPECIFIC ACTIONS OF OUR OWN. FOR THIS REASON, WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO MAKE A DIRECT APPROACH TO THE UK EITHER HERE OR IN LONDON. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR APPROACHING YOUR UK COLLEAGUE THERE IN A LOW KEY TO SEEK HIS VIEWS ON THE ICC'S CONTINUING UTILITY. IF HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION COINCIDES WITH YOURS, YOU MAY INDICATE THAT WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE ANY ACTION BY THE CO-CHAIRMEN TO TERMINATE ICC/LAOS BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, BUT THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE FOR US TO TAKE THE LEAD IN SEEKING SUCH TERMINATION.

2. REGARDING ICC/LAOS' IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO RESOLVE THESE WHEN THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET EVEN MADE THEIR INITIAL 1975 CONTRIBUTION AS WE AND OTHERS ALREADY HAVE WHILE IN PRINCIPLE WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION FOR THIS YEAR (PARTICULARLY IF IT IS DONE AS PART OF A TERMINATION ACTION), WE WOULD LIKE A CLEARER IDEA OF SOVIET INTENTIONS BEFORE WE ACTUALLY DECIDE TO DO SO. WE THINK THE INDIANS SHOULD THEREFORE FOCUS THEIR EFFORTS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE ON THE SOVIETS TO OBTAIN AT LEAST A FIRST-HALF 1975 CONTRIBUTION FROM THEM. IF THE ICC/LAOS IS FORCED TO CLOSE DOWN FOR LACK OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT RATHER THAN THROUGH A CONSCIOUS DECISION BY THE RESPONSIBLE CO-CHAIRMEN, THEN THE ONUS SHOULD CLEARLY BE ON THE USSR AS THE PRIME DEFAULTER.

3. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE INFORM MALIK THAT WHILE WE ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER HIS JULY 15 REQUEST FOR THE BALANCE OF OUR 1975 CONTRIBUTION, HE SHOULD MORE APPROPRIATELY ADDRESS HIMSELF IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO THE SOVIETS WHO ARE STILL IN COMPLETE DEFAULT. YOU MIGHT ADD THAT IF THE SOVIETS BELIEVE THE ICC/LAOS SHOULD END, THEN THEY SHOULD DISCHARGE THEIR OBLIGATIONS AS CO-CHAIRMAN AND NOT BE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLOWED TO FINESSE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES SIMPLY BY WITHHOLDING THEIR 1975 CONTRIBUTION.

4. YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM YOUR UK COLLEAGUE ALSO OF OUR POSITION PER ABOVE RE OUR FURTHER CONTRIBUTION. INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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MOSCOW
NEW DELHI
OTTAWA
PARIS

WARSAW
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